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Florence, Fremont Co., Colorado.

Florence, its resources; its attractions;
its possibilities.



Class F784

Book F5 F6

Florence
and its
Environs

FLORENCE

ITS RESOURCES
ITS ATTRACTIONS
ITS POSSIBILITIES

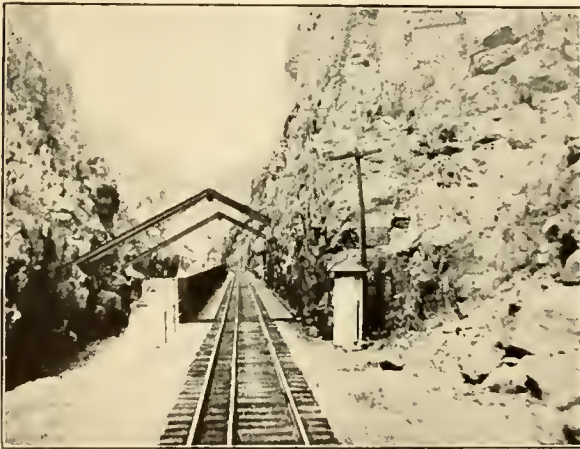


A CONSERVATIVE STATEMENT OF THE ADVANTAGES OFFERED
THE INVESTOR AND HOME SEEKER

PUBLISHED BY
THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FLORENCE, FREMONT COUNTY, COLORADO

Colorado

SOUTHERN and Western Colorado constitute the richest storehouse of undeveloped wealth to be found anywhere in the known world. Nowhere is there a more rapid development and nowhere are the rewards of industry and the intelligent use of capital more assured. Of this vast area, much of which is mountains prolific in mineral wealth, the Arkansas Valley is the garden spot. Of the upper Arkansas Valley Florence and its environs occupy a central and most important position, as will be readily seen by reference to the map on the opposite page. It is always a difficult matter to gain a correct impression of the size of land areas and when the eastern inquirer is told that a number of counties in Colorado are larger than some of the Eastern states they fail even then to fully comprehend how large Colorado really is. Colorado ranks seventh in area among the states and territories of the Union, being exceeded in size only by Texas, California,



ROYAL GORGE AND HANGING BRIDGE.



PIKE'S PEAK FROM THE
ARKANSAS VALLEY.

Montana, New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada. Many of the six states and territories mentioned consist largely of desert land, and when their limited resources are considered, it is only fair to give Colorado third place as regards land wealth among the states and in many important particulars it stands first of all. Colorado would cover the southeast quarter of Minnesota, the southern half of Wisconsin, all of Lake Michigan and half of the state of Michigan, the north half of Indiana and Illinois and the east half of Iowa.

The combined area of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales is 119,765 square miles, while that of Colorado is 103,925 square miles. These four countries constituting the British Isles contain a population of about thirty-eight million people, while Colorado has but little over half a million.

When the dweller in Colorado goes east and tells his friends and acquaintances there of the wonderful resources and possible future of Colorado he finds it a difficult matter to make them understand what are the grounds upon which he bases his belief in the future growth of Colorado.



MAP SHOWING THE LOCATION OF FREMONT COUNTY IN COLORADO.

It is not the province of this work to give a general description of the resources of the state of Colorado only so far as they relate directly to the future growth and prosperity of Florence, but when it is known that as yet Florence is the only source of supply of all petroleum products, is one of the most important points for the reduction of the ores of the great Cripple Creek Gold District, is the principal supply point for the domestic coals of the state east of the mountains, is in the center of the fruit and vegetable producing area of the upper Arkansas Valley, it will be apparent that a successful attempt to impress the importance of

Colorado upon the readers' mind is an important accomplishment toward the object of impressing the importance of Florence as a factor in the development of the great state of Colorado.

Colorado ranks first of all the states in the production of the precious metals and Florence ranks among the first in the reduction of these ores. Colorado ranks first of all the states in the Union in the amount of land under irrigation and the amount of capital invested in irrigation enterprises, and Florence has one of the largest tracts of rich mesa lands yet to be reclaimed available in the state.

Fremont County

IT WAS OVER a pass in the Rocky Mountains, situated in the southern part of what is now Fremont County, Colorado, that John C. Fremont, the noted explorer of the Rockies, passed over into Wet Mountain Valley and on over the Sangre De Cristo range to the San Luis Valley in his search for the headwaters of the Rio Grande River. It was in honor of this first explorer of its mountain sections that the county was given its name.



FREMONT COUNTY OIL FIELD.



EIGHT MILE CANON, F. & C. C. R. R.

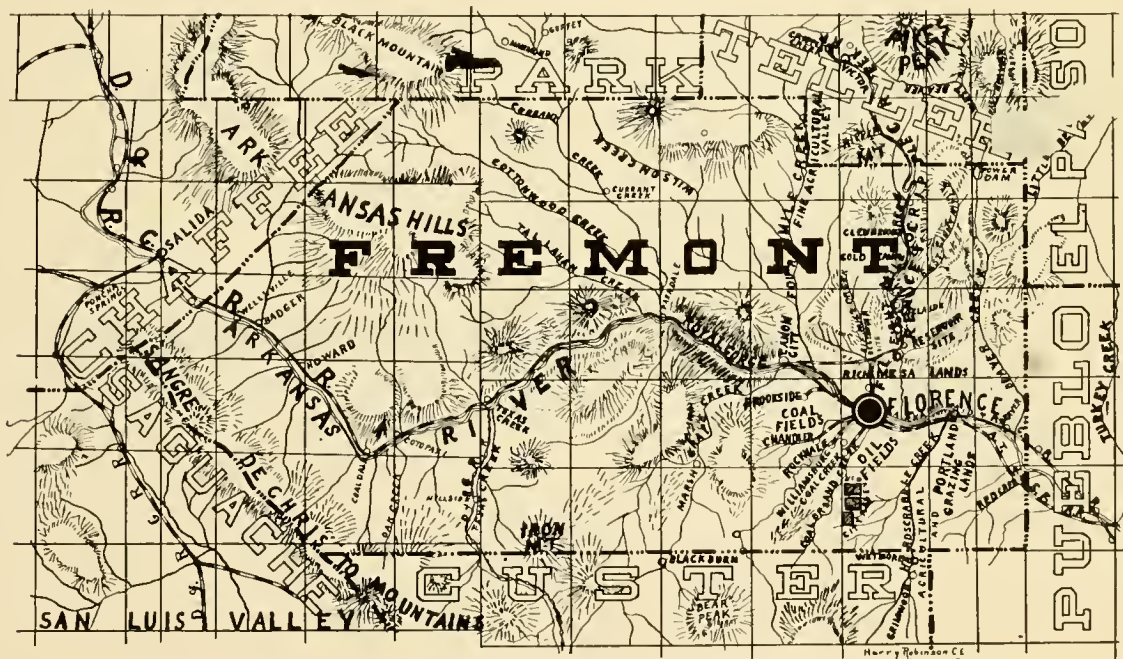
As will be seen by referring to the map on the preceding page Fremont County occupies very nearly a central position in the great state of Colorado. It contains within its borders mountain peaks approaching the 14,000 mark and the lowest valley in the state. It contains within its borders not only the most noted canon in the state, the Royal Gorge, but it contains another of equal, if not greater beauty, the canon of Eight Mile Creek traversed by the picturesque and beautiful scenic line of the Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad, destined to become as noted for its scenery as

has its more thoroughly advertised competitor, "The Short Line."

Fremont County contains thousands of acres of the best coal lands of the state, the development of which has but just begun, though thousands of tons per day can be produced from Fremont County mines. Fremont County contains immense deposits of cement, lime, gypsum, sand that can only be detected from sugar by the taste, marble, and all the precious metals. Fremont County contains the only paraffine base illuminating petroleum yet developed in paying quantities in the state of Colorado or west of Ohio.

Fremont County contains 179,181 acres of assessed lands under various classifications as follows: Grazing lands 122,970 acres, agricultural lands 29,992 acres, coal

lands 16,760 acres, other mineral lands patented 3,009 acres. The above, amounting to about eight townships, constitutes about one quarter of the area of the county and is situated in the central eastern end, almost surrounded by the mountains which constitute at least three quarters of the county. Of the land classed as grazing land a large percentage is susceptible of irrigation and will some day be reclaimed under irrigation systems of either private or governmental origin. The total assessed valuation of the county is \$6,365,940. Besides the coal and oil lands which have been fairly well developed, there are thousands of acres in the county as yet scarcely scratched by the pick of the prospector where in the future untold wealth is likely to be uncovered.



MAP OF FREMONT COUNTY AND ENVIRONS.



PIKE'S PEAK FROM FLORENCE.

Florence and its Environs

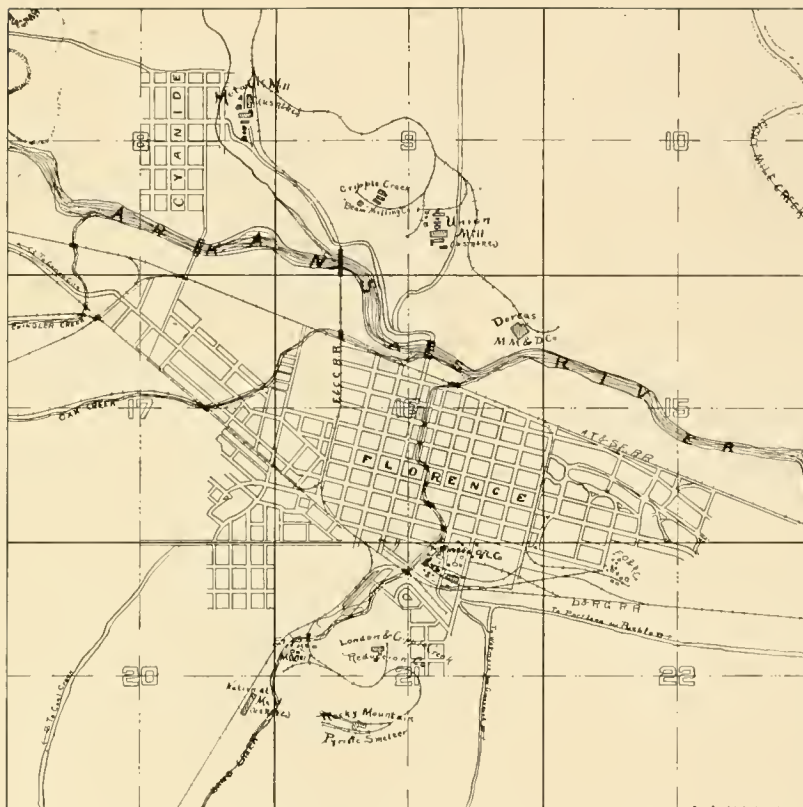
THE CITY of Florence is situated at almost the center of the available area of Fremont County for agricultural and manufacturing purposes. It is at the natural confluence of all roads leading from the mountains and plains to the Arkansas River and to the railroads which give access to the towns of the county. Situated in the very center, east and west, of the oil field it is the natural location for the oil refining industry. Situated upon the edge of the Fremont County coal fields with a down-hill haul from every mine in the district it is the natural center of trade for the populous and growing mining communities. Situated at the terminus of the Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad, with its unlimited supply of cheap coal Florence is the natural location for extensive

ore reduction works not only for the ores of the Cripple Creek District but for the rapidly developing mines of Western Fremont County and those of its neighboring counties of Chaffee, Saguache and Custer, all of which will be readily seen by referring to the map of Florence and its environs and the map of Fremont County.

Florence is a city of about 4,000 population, exclusive of its suburbs, which has been a gradual growth of the last ten years. Florence, differing from most western towns, has never had a boom with its disastrous reaction. Florence has had its periods of unexampled prosperity and comparative depression but never a period of wild inflation and consequent collapse of values. It is probable that this fact is due to the stability of its one exclusive industry, the oil business. Its other industries, i. e., the coal mining and ore re-



SCENE ON MAIN STREET, FLORENCE.



MAP OF FLORENCE AND ENVIRONS.

duction interests, have had their periods of comparative idleness owing to labor troubles and various causes which have caused fluctuations in the employment of labor, but the oil, like Tennyson's brook, flows on forever in an ever increasing stream, giving steady employment from one year's end to another to an ever increasing number of men of a class who earn good

wages, become owners of their own homes, and steady supporters of the business community.

It is unnecessary to dwell upon the character of the town as the illustrations constituting a large part of this work convey a more vivid impression of the substantial character of its business portion, and of the pleasing as well as substantial features of its residence section than can be done by descriptive text.



A FLORENCE RESIDENCE.



FREMONT HOTEL.

CLIMATE.

As has already been stated Florence is situated almost in the center of an amphitheater with the mountain ranges on three sides averaging about ten miles distant while on the fourth or eastern side high bluffs, not properly mountains, come to the river banks, thus shutting in a circular area of about twenty miles in

diameter with Florence in its center. While Florence necessarily enjoys to a large extent the general characteristics of the Colorado climate yet it has some local characteristics due to the topography of its immediate surroundings. As there are no official local weather statistics attainable, only a general statement of the exceptional features can be made. Probably



FLORENCE STATE BANK.



PIKE'S PEAK AVENUE, LOOKING NORTH.

the most notable exception is in the matter of wind. Owing to its shut-in location Florence does not experience the average amount of wind with which Colorado is accredited; then, too, as the immediate environs of the town are irrigated and cultivated lands there is not the average amount of dust experienced by places situated out upon the plains where the wind has a long sweep over extensive arid plains.

It is customary for every place in Colorado to claim more sunshine than any other place in the state and Florence is no exception to the rule. As these claims can neither be proven nor disproven they have little weight, but this much can be proven from official data of the weather bureau, viz: That as between Denver and the Arkansas Valley weather bureau reports there is an average difference of about 10 per cent in the matter of



A FLORENCE CHURCH.



THE DAILY TRIBUNE.

sunshine in favor of the valley and it is but a fair inference that Florence experiences about the same conditions which prevail at other points in the valley as to sunshine. There is an impression quite prevalent that the Arkansas Valley is very much hotter in summer than other portions of the state. Official data shows that the mean of maximum temperature is less than one degree higher for Pueblo than for Denver, and as Florence is several hundred feet higher than Pueblo and removed from the plains which are always hotter than the mountains, it is but a fair inference that the summer temperature would be found no higher than other places at the same altitude, in fact no one need be much concerned about excessive heat anywhere in Colorado. While it is not admitted that the summers in the upper Arkansas Valley are warmer than other portions of the state it must be admitted that any discomfort experienced from the summer's



A FLORENCE RESIDENCE.



ROCK ISLAND HOTEL.



THE FIRST SCHOOL.

heat is amply paid for in the absence of cold and storms in winter frequently experienced in other sections of the state. Colorado as a whole is blessed with a delightful winter climate, but if there is any one section especially blessed in this respect it is the upper Arkansas Valley and Florence.

In the matter of rain-fall Florence receives about the average for the state east of the mountains which is approximately 15 inches per annum, falling largely as showers during the summer months; prolonged rains or heavy snows being but very seldom experienced.



FIRST BRICK SCHOOL.



THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.



THE JACKSON DRY GOODS & CLOTHING COMPANY.

EDUCATIONAL.

Florence offers to the homeseeker, with children, the same advantages for a liberal education, up to the end of a high school course, that will be found in any community of the size of Florence in Colorado, which is synonymous with saying equal to those attainable anywhere in the United States. Among the illustrations will be found pictures of the first and last of five school buildings erected in Florence which tell the story of educational progress in the community more emphatically than words can tell it. The Florence Circulating Library and free reading room affords ample material and opportunity for all desiring such facilities.

RELIGIOUS.

While Florence has put more money into building ore reduction works than she has in building churches yet she has eight churches, all very creditable build-



HOTEL LENNOX.

ings, representing almost every evangelical denomination usually found in our western country. These churches are as well attended and well supported as are the churches of average communities, and exert a moral influence, which, while not excluding the saloon and its auxiliary evils, so controls public sentiment



ARTESIAN WELL.



THE FLORENCE HIGH SCHOOL.



SCENES IN AND ABOUT FLORENCE.



FLORENCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

that the result is an orderly and law-abiding community, in fact an exception in this respect for a town whose inhabitants are so largely wage earners, but as already stated, Florence wage earners are of an exceptionally high class.

SANITARY CONDITIONS.

In many towns the size of Florence the sanitary regulations are very imperfect in the matter of general



THE HADLEY MERCANTILE COMPANY.



A FLORENCE RESIDENCE.



CLUB HOUSE.



JOHNSON-FRITZ BLOCK.



A RESIDENCE STREET.

application, but a small part of the community availing themselves of the facilities for modern sanitation.

It is different in Florence. The city is provided with a thorough and perfect system of sewers and every property is obliged to connect with them, and it would surprise many residents of more pretentious cities to find all modern improvements in many small



RAMSEY-McGUIRE MERCANTILE COMPANY.



A FLORENCE RESIDENCE.

cottages of three or four rooms renting in many instances as low as from six to fifteen dollars per month.

WATER SUPPLY.

There is perhaps nothing in which Florence is more fortunate as a community than in the possession of a water supply for domestic purposes both ample and of the finest quality. With commendable foresight the city authorities early secured a supply of pure mountain water, not only securing the water but control of its sources so that it is insured against any possibility of contamination. The illustrations show not only the ultimate source of the water but also the distributing reservoirs to be located away above any possibility of contamination from dust carried from the city as they are well up among the foot hills from which the water is piped into the city and distributed to every house so that there need be no danger to the community from the use by a part of its residents of impure water. The quality of the water is beyond question.



A FLORENCE RESIDENCE.

BUSINESS.

As a business center Florence has never aspired to reaching out beyond her local retail trade, though there are sufficient good reasons to warrant the prediction that as the development of her neighboring



ANDREWS BLOCK.



DIEBERT FURNITURE COMPANY.

counties goes on she may become something of a wholesale center as well.

The Cripple Creek Gold District will eventually be reached from Florence not only by the present Florence and Cripple Creek road, but also by a railroad of lower grades than possible from any other point, which will divert more of its trade in the direction of Florence. The present road up Oak Creek to the coal mines will in all probability sometime be extended over Oak Creek grade, the lowest pass in the outer range, to Custer County, as her mines develop, thus not only bringing the ores of that section to Florence reduction works but opening up another rich district for trade, and as Florence already has the two great railroads of the valley as competitors for her trade, there are very good grounds for anticipating the development of Florence along these lines in the future. At present the town is well



LOBACH BLOCK.



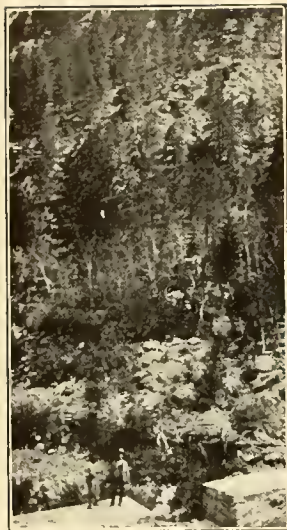
SECOND REGIMENT C. N. G. BAND.

supplied with business houses carrying good stocks in all lines and offers only the ordinary opportunities in commercial lines afforded by any growing community.

In the lines of labor there are good openings constantly offering for good men at good wages. Any



PHILLIPS TOOL COMPANY.

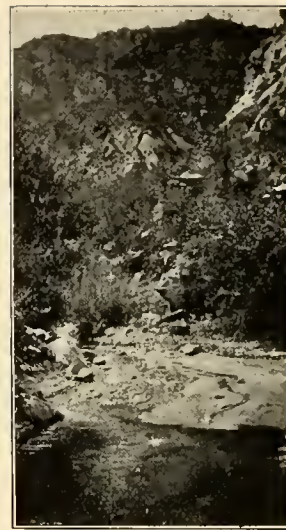


good steady man desiring to establish a home and willing to work at whatever he can find to go at first, will stand an excellent chance in Florence of getting what he wants to do within a reasonable time as there is a gradual increase of labor to be done and the man who is best known is most likely to get it.

SOCIAL.

Florence has all the social advantages usually found in a place of its size. A number of fraternal societies have flourishing lodges—there are ladies' clubs and social clubs too numerous to mention, and facilities for acquiring the accomplishments in music and art are equal to any town of its size.

Florence will bear investigation by those seeking a safe field of investment, or for a home where there is every probability of future growth and advancement.



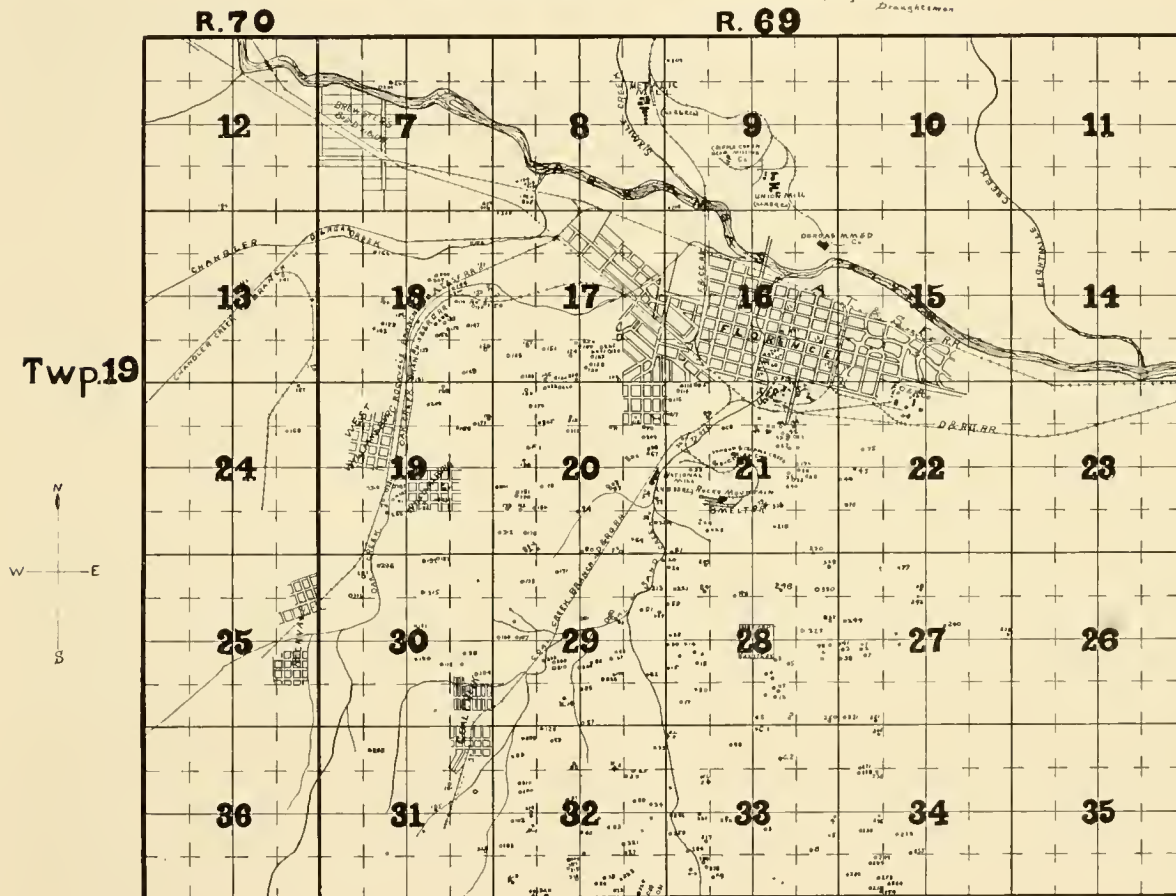
SOURCES OF FLORENCE CITY WATER SUPPLY.

PART OF DEVELOPED PORTION OF THE OIL FIELD AT FLORENCE, COLORADO.

Scale, 2" = 1 mile

January, 1904

Harry Robinson & Co.
Draftsmen



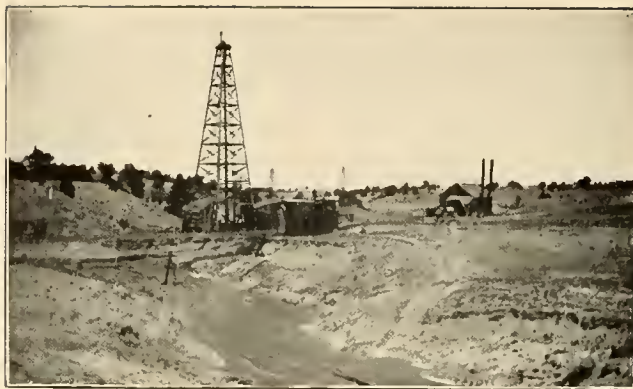
RESORT FEATURES.

Florence has never posed as a resort, although it enjoys many natural advantages which might be utilized if properly exploited. In the first place it has pure mountain water, a very important consideration, it has as great climatic advantages as any other place in the state. It has delightful drives in great variety, embracing mountain and valley scenery not excelled anywhere and equalled by but few localities. It has good fishing and hunting within a few miles ride. It has good society and every facility for easy access and quick communication with the outside world. It has a railroad, the Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad, reaching some of the grandest canon and mountain scenery in the state of Colorado.

Florence would make a fine location for a tent city for invalids desiring to live an out-of-door life yet be within easy reach of all the advantages of an established community. Horseback riding is a very popular form of amusement in Florence, there being many good saddlers owned in the town as it affords many interesting rides.

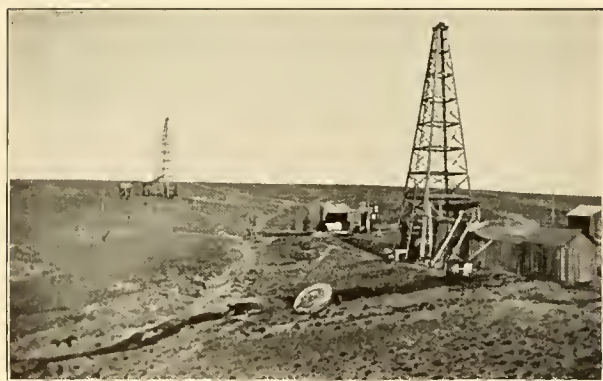
THE OIL INTERESTS.

It will probably surprise many of the readers of this book to learn that Florence supplies all the refined oil



WELLS 1 AND 3, UNITED OIL COMPANY.

for illuminating purposes that is consumed in the states of Montana, Utah, Wyoming and Colorado, and the territories of New Mexico and Arizona. The oil industry has gone on from year to year gradually developing virgin territory till there is a daily product of over 3,000 barrels or 120,000 gallons of refined oil which is distributed over the section named. There are 275,000 acres of known oil lands adjacent to Florence, of which only about 25,000 acres have as yet been exploited by

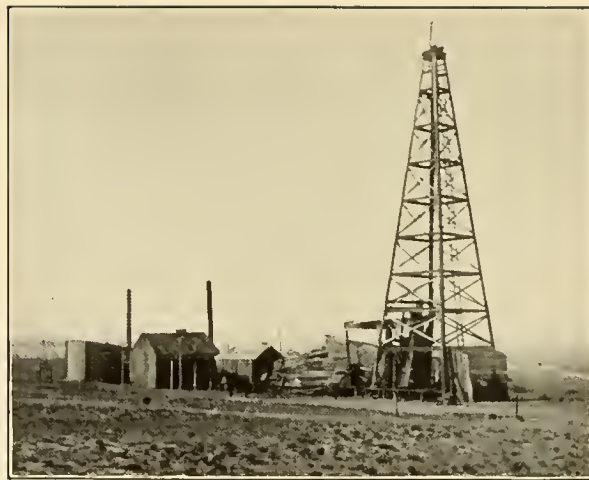


WELL 49, UNITED OIL COMPANY.



WELL OF THE KEYSTONE OIL COMPANY.

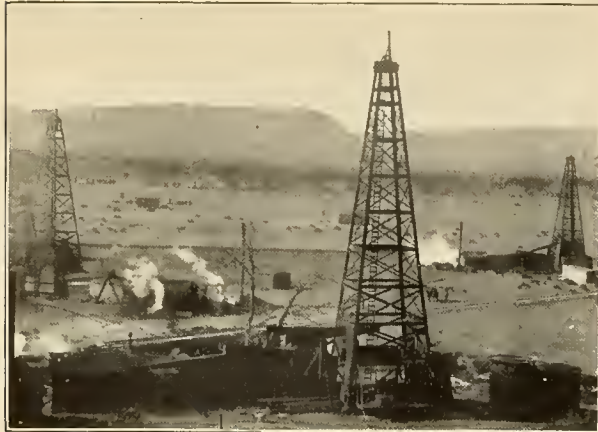
the drill, and this area scarcely scratched, the total number of wells put down being over 400 or one to every 60 acres of the field so far developed. When one considers that in the eastern oil fields it is not unusual to see as many as six wells upon an acre, it will be realized how much is yet to be done to develop even a small fraction of the possible product of this oil deposit. It must be remembered, however, that the Florence oil field is not like the Pennsylvania oil fields, in which the oil is found in a sand strata which can be defined and within the defined limits sure to yield a producer. In the Florence field the oil is deposited in pockets or crevices, and it is impossible to predict with the same degree of certainty what the outcome will be in any well until the drill has passed the extreme depth at which oil has been found, as the depth varies between fifteen hundred and three thousand feet. One well may



WELL 248—A 200 BARREL PRODUCER.



REFINERY OF THE UNITED OIL COMPANY.



THE FLORENCE OIL FIELDS.

is prepared to stay in the game even a reasonable length of time. There are in the Florence field about seventy-five producing wells ranging all the way from 10 to 200 barrels per day. As the Florence field is the only one west of Ohio yielding a paraffine base oil, one which can be refined into illuminating oil, and as the eastern fields are unable to more than supply the eastern markets, there is every encouragement for the investment of money in the Florence oil field, for it has been proven that one good producer will return the investment lost in a number of failures, and a good annual dividend on the whole amount for a good many years, so that for the man who is not looking for a



CONNECTED OIL WELLS AT FLORENCE.

be a heavy producer and other wells around it not produce a barrel of oil, while another at some distance away may "strike oil." Wells Nos. 1 and 3 of the United Oil Company have been pumped for over twenty years and are producing oil today, though not in any considerable quantity. Well No. 49, it is claimed, has produced more oil than any other well in the United States, having yielded over 1,000,000 barrels, and in money value over \$1,000,000. The opportunities at Florence for the investment of money in the production of oil are just as good today as they have been at any time since the discovery of the oil deposits. It has always been a gamble, to some extent, but it is a gamble in which the chances are in favor of the man who



OIL WELLS IN TOWN.

"sure thing" at every deal it offers a good field for investment. While the present production is very largely controlled by the United Oil Company, who refine all their own oil, they encourage independent effort in the field, and there are several other companies operating in the field, among which are: The Blaney Oil Company, the Centennial, Centrad, Columbia, Creede, Crescent, Doctor, Empire, Fremont, Frazier Hiawatha, Keystone, Lobach, Majestic, National, Oak Creek, Stadicona, Union, Union Oil and Coal, Victor, and the West Lebanon Oil Company, all now operating in the Florence field.

The relations of the Standard Oil Company to the

Florence field are not generally understood. The Standard Oil Company does not control the production or the refining of the Florence oil, but does supply the producers a market for their product as they do practically every oil producer or refiner in the United States. Without that company and their facilities for marketing the product the Florence oil field would not enjoy its advance to anywhere near its present proportions. While the Standard Oil people are "out for all there is in it" they encourage the producer and refiner. They know all the dangers which confront such an industry, and what may seem a restraint at times is really a pro-



J. D. ROCKEFELLER'S OFFICE.



OIL WELL SUPPLY COMPANY AT FLORENCE.



A DRILLING WELL.



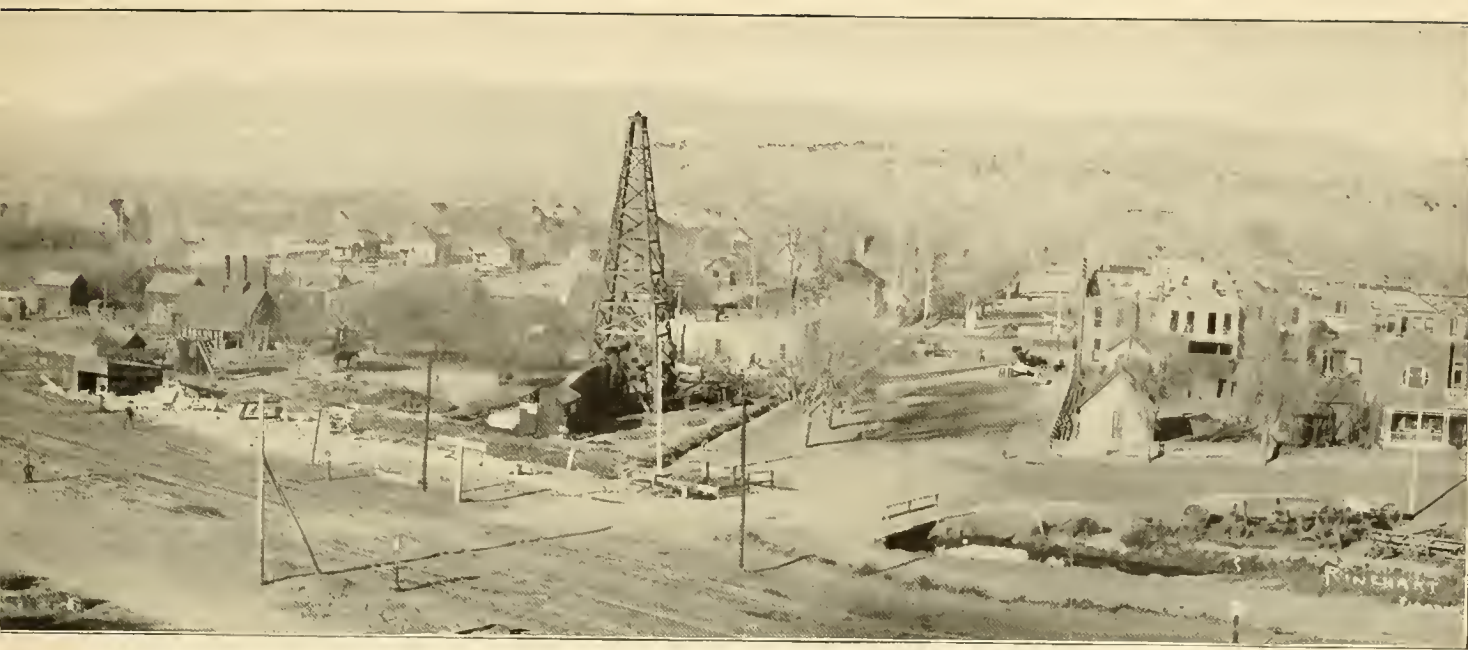
FLORENCE OIL COMPANY'S REFINERY.



PANORAMA OF FLORENCE



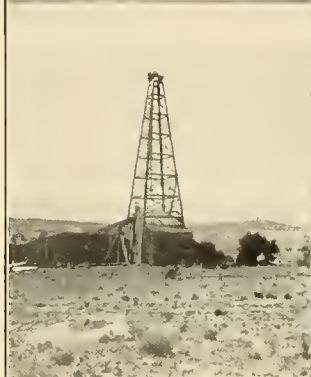
PANORAMA OF FLORENCE



OF SANTA FE AVENUE.



FLORENCE, COLO.
DEC 1900



Frazier Oil Co.
Centrad Oil Co.
Columbia Crude Oil Co.

Victor Oil Co.
National Oil Co.
West Lebanon Oil Co.

Wilkes Barre Oil Co.
Union Oil Co.
Blaney Oil Co.

Hiawatha Oil Co.
Sladacona Oil Co.
Oak Creek Oil Co.

tection from the dangers which threaten inexperienced operators.

It is probable that to many people, even of average intelligence, "oil is oil" and they are not aware of the fact that it is not of all kinds of crude petroleum that the "coal oil" or kerosene oil of commerce can be obtained. It is a fact that with the wonderful discoveries of petroleum within the past five years not a gallon of paraffine base petroleum has been added to the world's visible supply, for all of the late oil strikes have been oils of asphaltum base, suitable only for fuel purposes. The Florence oil yields not only the lighter illuminating products of the petroleum but all of the lubricating properties of the best West Virginia oils as well.

COAL INTERESTS.

Immediately tributary to Florence are the coal mines of Fremont County, at Coal Creek, Rockvale, Williamsburg, Chandler, Brookside and Bear Gulch.

At Coal Creek is located the Canfield mine, the oldest coal mine in the state of Colorado, belonging to the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, who are also the owners of the Bear Gulch mine at Bear Gulch. These



THE TOWN OF COAL CREEK.



BEAR GULCH COAL MINE.



THE CHANDLER COAL MINE.



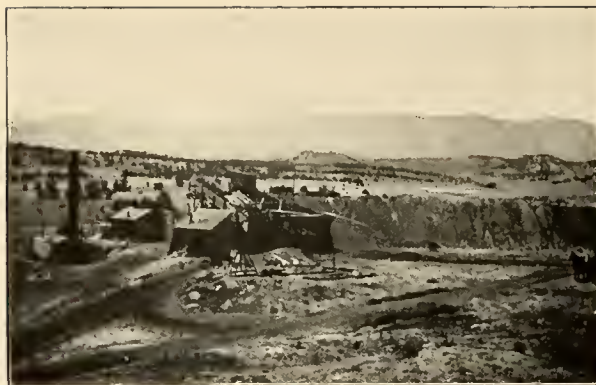
THE COWAN COAL MINE.

two mines employ about 300 men. The Rockvale and Brookside mines are owned by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad and employ about 500 men.

At Chandler, another thriving mining town about five miles from Florence, is located one of the largest mines in the county. This mine is owned by the Victor Fuel Company and employs about 150 men.

At Williamsburg are located the Ocean Wave, belonging to the Rocky Mountain Fuel Company, the Peanut and Williamsburg Slope, properties of Smith and Company, and employing about 125 men.

Besides these larger developments there are a number of smaller mines owned by individuals which



THE BLAZING RAG COAL MINE.



PANORAMA OF NORTH HALF OF ROCKVALE.



HORSESHOE COAL MINE.

in the aggregate mine a large quantity of coal and employ a considerable number of men, adding very materially to the prosperity of Florence, which receives a large part of the trade of these mining communities.

Within three miles of Florence are located the Williams mine owned by F. M. Williams, the Horseshoe owned by Anton Morganstein, the Cowan and the Castle Rock owned by Chas. Cowan, the Blazing Rag and the Polly Pry owned by McLean and Company, the Brewster owned by S. P. Smith and Company, and the Cuckoo operated upon the co-operative plan by the men who do the work. These individual mines employ about 200 men.

This is probably the only place in the United States,



OCEAN WAVE COAL MINE.

Florence and adding much to her prosperity. This resource, like the oil industry, is one constantly increasing in magnitude and importance, and owing to its nearness to the best markets one likely to grow rapidly to very large proportions. Like the oil field the coal fields of Fremont County offer fine opportunities for the enlistment of capital and enterprise.



PANORAMA OF SOUTH HALF OF ROCKVALE.

possibly in the world, where coal and petroleum are produced from the same ground at the same time. The illustration of the Peanut mine shows a mine producing coal and but a few rods distant and passing through the workings of the mine is a well which is a producer of oil, the coal fields overlapping the oil deposits over a considerable area at Florence.

All of the coal produced from the Fremont County mines is the best quality of domestic coal found in Colorado and finds a ready market, not only in the cities of the state but also as far east as Kansas City, Mo. There are in the various mining towns named probably 3,500 population, very largely tributary to



PEANUT COAL MINE.



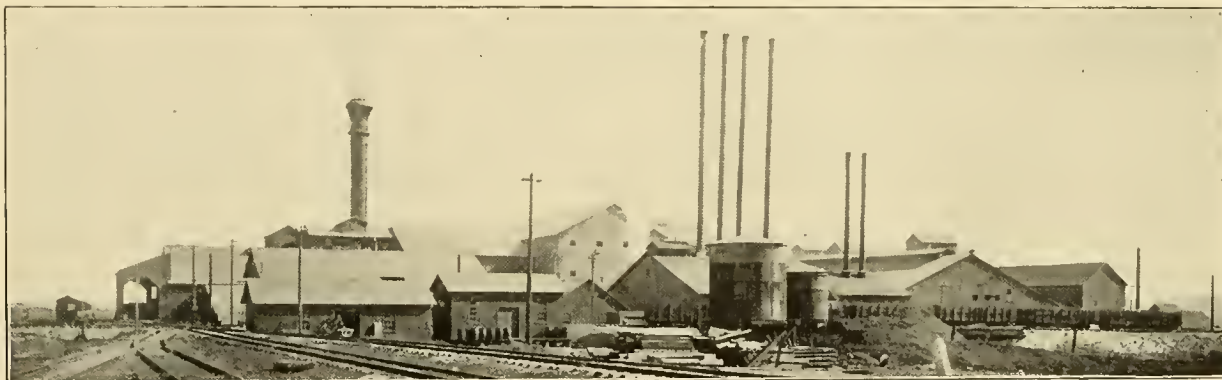
SCENE ON LINE OF THE FLORENCE & CRIPPLE CREEK R. R.

ORE REDUCTION.

With the development of the Cripple Creek Gold District and the building of the Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad, began a new era for Florence. Cheap fuel owing to its proximity to the Fremont County coal mines and to the fuel products of the oil field, together with a down-hill haul from the mines and ample water supply, rendered Florence the most eligible place in the state for the reduction of these ores. Florence grasped the opportunity, and as one company



ROCKY MOUNTAIN SMELTER.



UNION MILL OF THE U. S. REFINING AND REDUCTION COMPANY.



after another proposed to establish reduction works every facility possible was extended to them and eight large plants were erected within a radius of less than two miles of the city. The United States Reduction and Refining Company are the owners of two plants, the Union Mill with a daily capacity of 400 tons of ore, and the National with a capacity of 200 tons; the two employing about 300 men. These mills use the chlorination process in the extraction of the gold from the ore. The Dorcas Mill, owned by the Dorcas Milling Company, is also a chlorination mill of 150 tons daily capacity and gives employment to about sixty men.

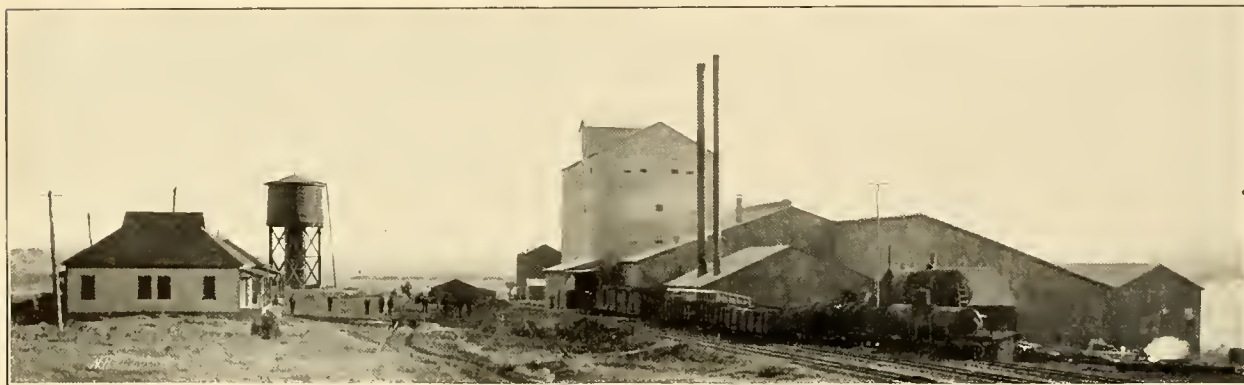
The Beam Milling Company operates a mill of



THE FLORENCE MILL.

The combined capacity of the six mills remaining, two having been destroyed by fire, is between 1,100 and 1,200 tons of ore daily, giving employment, when running at their full capacity, to about 650 men.

It has been demonstrated by companies operating plants here and at other points that the saving in cost of fuel at Florence is sufficient on every ton of ore treated to afford a good profit on the business, and the permanence of this industry at Florence is pretty well established for at least the life of the Cripple Creek mining district, which promises well for many years of large production.



THE DORCAS MILL.

seventy-five tons capacity, using what is known as the "Beam Process" of extraction, a chemical process, and employs seventy-five men.

The Florence Mill, owned by the Colorado Mining and Leasing Company, has a capacity of sixty tons per day and uses the cyanide process, employing thirty-five men.

The only smelter, properly speaking, is the smelter of the Rocky Mountain Smelter Company, which has a capacity for reducing 250 tons of ore daily and employs 100 men.



THE NATIONAL MILL.



ADELAIDE STATION, F. & C. C. R. R.

THE CEMENT INDUSTRY.

The growth of the cement trade in this country during the last decade has been phenomenal, chiefly by reason of the demand created by the extraordinary increase in the erection of high office buildings and submarine constructions. The general uses for which cement is suitable are increasing so rapidly that an enumeration of its various applications is impossible in the limited space available, but we are all familiar with the cement sidewalk and doubtless the average

to become an immense consumer in the gigantic public works in reclaiming the desert under the irrigation law.

In view of this ever increasing demand it is but a fair inference that the cement interests of Fremont County as established at Portland, six miles from Florence, are destined to become one of the most important manufacturing industries of the county and of the Arkansas Valley. At Portland are combined the advantages of unlimited deposits of the finest cement,



CEMENT WORKS AT PORTLAND, FREMONT COUNTY, COLORADO.

reader will associate the use of this material with this limited function.

Among engineers concrete is fast supplanting masonry for foundation walls, piers and abutments and in all places where stone and brick masonry have been used. Railroads are adopting it for culverts, mile posts, roadbeds, ties, tunnel and sub-way linings.

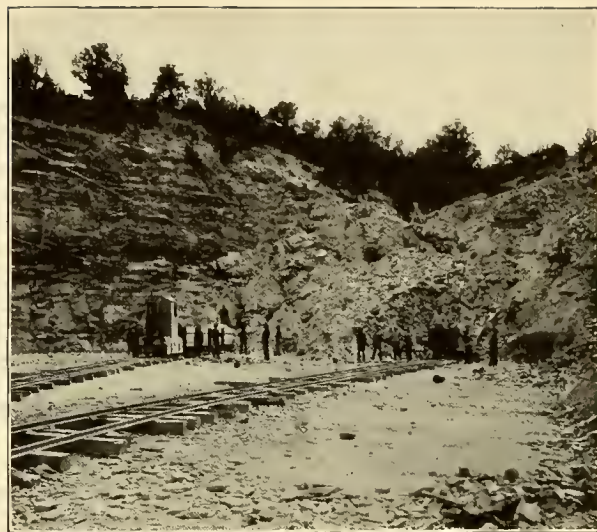
Municipalities are applying it to all public works for curbing, sewers, filtering plants and public buildings, and the government of the United States is likely

lime and plaster rock, with coal and oil fuel to be found anywhere in the United States, and the phenomenal success of the Portland Cement Company in not only producing a quality of cement which has stood the severest tests in competition with long established brands, but in establishing a market which taxes the producing capacity of their immense plant to its utmost, is one of the industrial triumphs of the century.

As will be observed from the illustrations the Portland cement works are extensive, including not only



PLASTER QUARRY AT PORTLAND.



CEMENT QUARRY AT PORTLAND.

the manufacture of cement but of building plaster, which is very rapidly superceding the old lime and sand plaster in all lines of construction. The Portland plant turns out 1,000 barrels of cement and a large amount of plaster every day and gives employment to

200 men, thus proving not only an important factor in the prosperity of Fremont County but a very important one in the support of Florence business houses, which supply a large part of the needs of a rapidly growing community at Portland.



TOWNSITE OF PORTLAND.

CATTLE AND LIVESTOCK.

The assessment roll of Fremont County includes 15,035 head of livestock as having been owned in the county in 1903, of which 11,854 were classed as cattle. Fremont County is not so much noted for the large number of its livestock as it is for the quality it produces. Some of the finest stock in the state, both of cattle and horses, is raised and owned in Fremont County, Florence being the center of this industry as well as of the others mentioned.

As will be observed by reference to the map of Fremont County, there are extensive tracts of open country to the south and southeast of Florence, also to the northeast, affording fine pasturage, all of which territory is directly tributary to Florence. It was upon the Watson ranch southeast of Florence that the Prince of Wales and Grand Duke Alexis spent some days hunting buffalo when visiting this country in 1864.



FREMONT COUNTY COWBOYS.



ROUND-UP OF 3,000 CATTLE ON WATSON'S RANCH IN FREMONT COUNTY.



STRING OF FIVE HOLDING WORLD'S RECORD.



DINNER ON THE ROUND-UP.



A TYPICAL GOAT PASTURE.



FREMONT COUNTY BURROS.

The house shown in the picture of the "round-up of 3,000 cattle" is where they were entertained and is yet in existence.

Besides the cattle and usual livestock there is perhaps the largest herd of goats to be found in the state pasturing among the hills just outside of Florence. The picture of this herd shows that the traditional preference of the goat for a stone quarry as a pasture is no myth. Another picture shows the shipping of a number of "Colorado canaries" (burros) to the east, which is becoming quite an industry and as it costs literally nothing to raise them it is an industry which might be made a source of considerable profit by invalids who desire an out-door life without much capital invested. In connection with the cattle interests it may interest the reader to know that Florence is perhaps the only place in Colorado which has been able to defy the beef trust and furnish its citizens with



A MOUNTAIN VALLEY ON THE F. & C. C. R. R.



A BUNCH OF FREMONT COUNTY STEERS.



A FREMONT COUNTY THOROUGHbred.



COLORADO CANARIES GOING EAST.

good meat cheap. The best cuts of porterhouse are sold in the markets for 12½ cents and from that down to 4 cents per pound for boiling meats, and the quality of the meat sold is equal to any packing house meat sold in Colorado. There are a number of quite noted horses owned and were raised in the vicinity of Florence. One of the illustrations shows a string of five owned by Watson Brothers, which hold the world's record on a five mile run, each horse running a mile and the rider changing.

AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

The purely agricultural interests about Florence are not extensive owing to the fact that the land is so much more valuable for intensive farming as gardens and orchards that the raising of ordinary farm products has largely given way to truck farming and



THE FRAZIER ORCHARD.

horticulture. But there are some quite extensive and model farms along the valley which produce immense crops of whatever it is attempted to raise. Alfalfa is the leading farm crop as it requires less labor and is more profitable than any other crop. There is just to



ALFALFA FIELD JUST OUT OF FLORENCE.



EIGHT MILE CANON A FEW MILES FROM FLORENCE.

the northeast of the city an extensive mesa of very rich land which only needs water upon it to afford one of the finest agricultural possibilities of the state. It is only a question of sufficient capital to handle the proposition, when the most extensive farm and garden tracts yet undeveloped in the state can be made to support a dense population over an area of some 100 square miles of the most beautifully located and attractive home sites imaginable. When this is accomplished Florence can be rightfully named the Garden City of the West, as it is territory for which she will be the natural center. By referring to the map of Fremont County, it will be seen that there are a number of available reservoir sites for the preservation of water for the reclaiming of this tract and it is only a question of time when it will be accomplished either by private enterprise or through the government. To the southeast of Florence there is a large tract of prosperous territory, comprising some of the largest cattle ranches in the state as well as a number of extensive agricultural ranches both under irrigation and



CONQUERING THE DESERT.



SUBURBAN HOMES AT FLORENCE.



LILIES OF THE VALLEY.



A HORTICULTURIST'S HOME AT FLORENCE.

depending upon rain fall, which is abundant as the mountains are approached, and the opportunity still exists for the establishment of such enterprises in Fremont County.

HORTICULTURE.

The raising of fruit and vegetables is already one of the greatest interests of the entire Arkansas Valley,

but promises for the future to become the greatest interest. There are almost limitless opportunities for the home-seeker desiring to develop small tracts of five, ten, or more acres, all along the valley, particularly within a few miles of Florence. These lands are not cheap in one sense, but when it is considered that many acres cultivated have yielded \$1,000 per acre per year



DAM SITE IN CANON.

one can hardly consider any price as high. Such lands can be bought unimproved, with water rights at from \$200 to \$300 per acre, which in small fruits and vegetables can in two years be made to pay from \$500 to \$1,000 per acre. The Frazier orchard, which originally comprised eighty acres, has produced \$25,000 worth of apples in one season, and many instances of a net product of \$500 and over per acre are well authenticated. It is also interesting to note that the Frazier orchard, which still produces large crops of apples, is also producing oil, the Frazier Oil Company's well being



A RECENT BEAVER DAM AT FLORENCE.

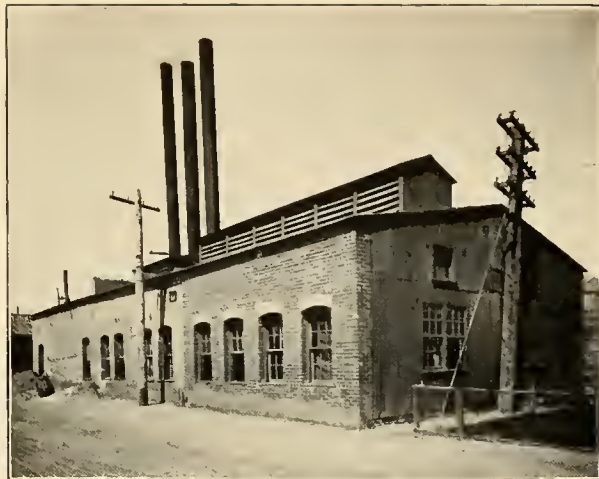


FREMONT COUNTY DEER.

located among the apple trees. The illustrations convey a better idea of what is possible in the line of horticulture and small home-making than can be conveyed by language.

MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES.

Florence has a number of enterprises grouped under this miscellaneous head deserving of notice, as they in the aggregate employ a considerable amount of labor, among which are an ice manufactory, electric light plant, The Florence Iron Works, which includes a foundry capable of turning out work ordinarily not done by country foundries. The Florence Iron Works build a rotary engine, a picture of which is given, which promises to revolutionize the use of small motive power engines with gasoline as a motive agent, as even the airship can carry one of these engines of sufficient power to overcome very strong currents. Quite an important industry is a branch of the Oil Well Supply Company, of Pittsburg, Pa., which carries all oil well supplies for the western oil fields, and is fitted to make all repairs required. The David Phillips Company, of Brad-



ARKANSAS VALLEY ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT.



CRYSTAL ICE PLANT.



COAL CAR MANUFACTORY.

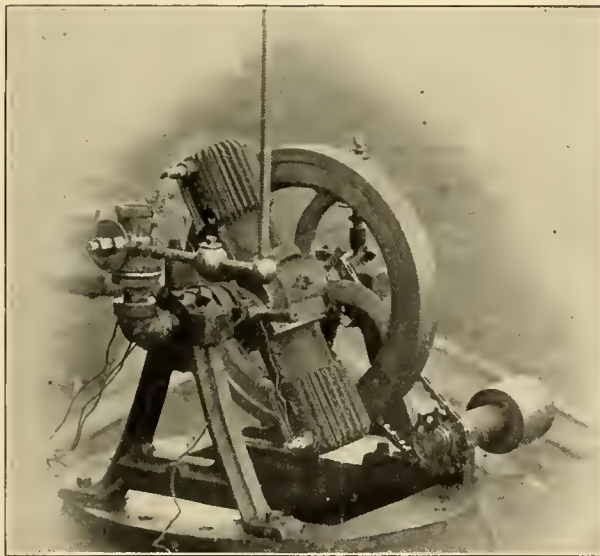
ford, Pa., also have a branch house in Florence, which carries a full line of oil well supplies, engines, boilers, etc., and give employment to a number of men.

The Fremont Carriage Company and Coal Car Works build a patented dumping coal car for mines, which is very popular, and is becoming an important industry. The Florence Carriage Manufactory is also an industry of importance to the city.

With her cheap fuel and facilities for creating power cheaply, Florence offers exceptional advantages for a large variety of small manufactories, and its advantages ought to appeal to many looking for eligible locations for small plants in many lines. The recent discovery of large deposits of a pure granular sand which is almost pure silica opens up a field for glass works which might be made profitable when the immediate supply of fuel and gas is taken into consideration.



FLORENCE IRON WORKS.



A FLORENCE ROTARY ENGINE.



RESERVOIR SITE NEAR FLORENCE.



SCENES ON THE FLORENCE & CRIPPLE CREEK R. R.

RAILROADS OF FLORENCE.

Florence is situated upon the main transcontinental line of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, by which it is reached from all points in Western Colorado, Utah, Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho, via Salt Lake City. By the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, directly from Chicago, Kansas City, Galveston and El Paso, Texas, and Southern California. From St. Louis and the World's Fair, Kansas City, Central Missouri, Central Kansas and the southeastern sections of the country, the Missouri Pacific is the direct line to Florence and the Coast. From the East by way of Den-

ver, the Union Pacific, Burlington and Rock Island routes connect with Denver & Rio Grande trains to Florence without change. From Central Texas the Colorado and Southern connects at Pueblo with trains for Florence, over either the D. & R. G. or A., T. & S. F. roads.

Florence is the point of change for all passengers to the Cripple Creek Gold District over the Florence & Cripple Creek Railroad, one of the finest scenic routes in the world, and with its connection, the Colorado Midland, to Colorado Springs, is a favorite route to Denver and the East.



DENVER & RIO GRANDE AND FLORENCE & CRIPPLE CREEK R. R. DEPOT.



DUNNVILLE, THE NEW MINING CAMP ON F. & C. C. R. R., FREMONT COUNTY.



SANTA FE RAILROAD DEPOT AT FLORENCE.



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